

provide valuable depth into certain elements of the Ottoman Empire. The present work, however, widens our focus to give a much broader comprehension. We see a traditional Muslim Empire conquering, absorbing, defending, and finally losing an important portion of southeastern Europe. What may formerly have appeared as a political system lacking in the capacity for sustained development is in fact a classic example of the imperial cycle. We may find astonishment that the reformers, seeking traditional answers to their contemporary questions, avoided disaster for so long.

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Milija M. Lašić-Vasojević, *Enemies On All Sides: The Fall of Yugoslavia*, Washington, D.C., North American International, 1976, pp. 286.

Milija Lašić offers the reader a glimpse into his own life as a Serbian high school teacher, soldier, war prisoner and displaced person during the war years and up to 1951. His personal, highly moving account tells of his individual decision to join the Yugoslav army of King Petar II under the command of General Draza Mihailovic at the onset of the war and the resulting consequences of that decision—a loss of family, friends and country.

Unlike other participants of the second world war for whom the decisions, to fight and on which side, were made by their respective governments, Milija Lašić was confronted with several choices and each choice brought with it a different outcome. Civil war waged in Yugoslavia within the context of the world war. Partisans, chetniks and Croatian *utasi* fought each other as Germans, Italians (although the Italians are not seen in the role of a typical occupier) and Albanians fought Yugoslavs—truly there were “enemies on all sides”. This is the story of one man’s survival against these “enemies” and others—execution, frost, exhaustion, hunger and typhus. The reader walks with Lašić and his local-defense unit through the mountains and towns of Yugoslavia. In these movements the map supplement provided in the appendix would have better served the reader if it had been included along with other detailed maps within the text. For anyone unfamiliar with the area it is difficult to follow the military movements without the assistance of a map to help locate the towns.

Lašić and others like himself fought bravely; and yet tragically, he and they were treated as enemies by their own countrymen and by the Allies. Describing the events of mid-1945 he has written: “Several months earlier all countries in Europe were enjoying the return of their sons from captivity, while we Serbians were not able to go anywhere. Fascism and Nazism had destroyed our country; the Allies had handed us over to Communists whose getting into power in Yugoslavia they had greatly helped from 1943 through 1945. This injustice was killing us”.

Milija Lašić’s story is a tragedy—one of many. It raises many questions, few of which can be answered. More inquiries of this type by all sides are needed to provide an understanding, if not an explanation, of this tragic episode in Yugoslav history.

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Carole Rogel, *The Slovenes & Yugoslavism 1890-1914*, New York, Columbia University Press, 1977, pp. vii + 167.

This small, but quite expensive study, is concerned with the pre-World War I develop-